IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as follows:

10. (currently amended) An assembly method for assembling a heat-resistant assembly ~~for protecting~~ having a boiler tube assembly formed with boiler tubes and a connecting flat rib, ~~from combustion gases, having~~ a heat-resistant block conformed to the contours of said boiler tubes and ~~the~~ a surface of said connecting flat rib ~~which is placed between said tube assembly and said combustion gases~~, and ~~interlockingly engaged with said boiler tube assembly by mortar~~ an interlocking mechanism projecting from the surface of the rib toward the block and indentations on the surface of the block into which the interlocking mechanism engage, comprising the steps of:

applying ~~said~~ mortar to said tube assembly, including said interlocking mechanism, and said heat-resistant block, including said indentations, separately; and

assembling said tube assembly and said heat-resistant block together ~~after said mortar has been applied to specified portions of said tube assembly and said block~~ , wherein the indentations on the block which have been filled with mortar are brought in contact with the interlocking mechanism on the tube assembly, so that the mortar causes the two surfaces to adhere to one another.

11. (currently amended) An assembly method for assembling a heat-resistant assembly according to claim 10, wherein in the applying mortar step, said mortar is applied in the depression between said boiler tubes and said connecting flat rib on said tube assembly, and in the depressions in the curved interior surfaces on said heat-resistant block facing said tube assembly.

12. (currently amended) An assembly method for assembling a heat-resistant assembly having a boiler tube assembly formed with boiler tubes and a connecting flat rib, a heat-resistant block conformed to the contours of said boiler tubes and ~~the~~ a surface of said connecting flat rib, a catch on an arm which protrudes from the surface of said connecting flat rib toward said heat-resistant block, and an indentation on said heat-resistant block into which said catch on said arm interlockingly engages to attach or release said heat-resistant block on said boiler tubes, comprising the steps of:

applying mortar to said connecting flat rib, wherein ~~a first process for controlling~~ the thickness of mortar~~, in which excess mortar~~ which has been applied to said connecting flat rib connecting the boiler tubes is controlled by removing excess mortar ~~removed~~ with a scraper using the exterior surface of said boiler tubes as a guide; and

applying mortar to the curved indentations, wherein ~~a second process for controlling~~ the thickness of mortar~~, in which excess mortar~~ which has been applied between the curved indentations on said heat-resistant block facing said boiler tubes is controlled by removing excess mortar ~~removed~~ with a scraper using ~~the~~ a flat straight surface of said block as a guide; and

adhering said tube assembly to said block by ~~a third process for~~ cementing, in which said indentations on said block which have been filled with mortar ~~in specified locations~~ are brought in contact with said catch on said tube assembly so that the mortar causes the two surfaces to adhere to each other and said tube assembly and the block are cemented to each other by the mortar.